

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

October 17, 2016

at the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room A,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Melody Drnach, Kenneth Findlay, Louise Herrington-Bright, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan

Members Absent: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Annette Feldman, Edward Garcia, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell, Joan Ress Reeves, Thomas Viall

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Dr. Dzialo

Materials Distributed: None

I. WELCOME

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 4:21 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the September 19, 2016 meeting

Moved by: Dr. Hopper

Seconded by: Ms. Drnach

The meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

The LBRI Co-Chair, Ms. Reynolds, presided over the meeting in Mr. Viall's absence.

A. Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Focus Group

A focus group composed of members of the LBRI was held at William Hall Library on September 29 for the LSTA evaluation. Ms. Reynolds reported that Mr. Viall extends his thanks to all the LBRI members who participated.

- B. Ms. Reynolds recognized Ms. Humphrey for being named the East Greenwich District Teacher of the Year. An article about the honor bestowed upon Ms. Humphrey can be found online in the [East Greenwich Pendulum](#).

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Department of Administration (DOA) Initiatives

- i. Amendment to Administrative Procedures Act, Regulatory Filing

In Fiscal Year 2016, the RI General Assembly passed an amendment to the Administrative Procedures Act mandating the creation of an online, searchable database for state rules and regulations. All state rules and regulations must be refiled in a new format for inclusion in the online database. The deadline for agencies to complete this process is January 2019, though DOA is expecting all agencies to complete the review, revision, and filing of regulations by August 2018. The Office of Regulatory Reform will provide tools and a template for agency use.

As part of the process, the state has set a goal to reduce regulations by 10% through revision and adoption of the new format, which will streamline regulatory language and connect regulations and laws. The three regulations promulgated by the LBRI include Public Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations, Minimum Standards for RI Public Libraries, and Library of RI (LORI) Standards. OLIS completed a review and revision of the Public Library and LORI Standards within the last three years, reducing them substantially and using the new format, so they will not require much revision. The Construction Regulations are currently under revision. As part of the regulatory reform, any guidance documents are now required to be part of the regulation.

ii. Continuity of Business

To ensure that all RI state agencies remain operational in the case of an emergency, weather event or IT shutdown, each department has a Continuity of Business (COB) plan. The RI Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) is deploying a new online tool to standardize the development of COB plans across state agencies. OLIS is included in the Dept. of Administration's plan, but must identify agency specific responsibilities for the DOA COB.

B. LSTA Evaluation

Ms. Mellor extended her gratitude to the LBRI members who made the LSTA focus group a success. The next step in the process will be the creation of a survey to collect information from RI libraries. The survey will be developed with the evaluation consultant, Quality Metrics, and distributed to all libraries in RI.

C. Open Textbook Initiative

Ms. Mellor attended the launch of the Open Textbook Initiative, a project of Governor Raimondo's Office of Innovation. The goal of the initiative is to provide savings for RI students through the adoption of free, online textbooks for college classes. Assistant Professor Dragan Gill, of Rhode Island College's Adams Library, is coordinating libraries across the state for participation in the initiative. Dr. Hopper reported that RI academic libraries are already partnering with faculty to encourage them to investigate open learning resources, or convert from high-cost textbooks to combined content from available subscriptions.

D. Council of State Libraries in the Northeast (COSLINE)

Ms. DiMichele gave an overview of the annual COSLINE library development meeting, hosted this year by the state of Delaware. Chaichin Chen, OLIS, also attended the meeting. Highlights from the meeting included speakers on collective impact through purposeful collaboration, social media communication strategies, library service modeling and assessment.

E. New England Library Association (NELA) Conference

Ms. Mellor attended the NELA Annual Conference, 'Imaging Tomorrow', on October 16, in Danvers, MA. Ms. Mellor was at the event to speak at the State of the States, a panel of chiefs of library agencies from the six New England states.

Issues highlighted by the panel were interlibrary loan, the high costs of delivery, statewide union catalogs, and eBooks. Massachusetts is conducting a study of public library facilities, including accessibility issues. Ms. Mellor recommended that RI conduct a similar survey of public libraries; the last such survey was conducted in the mid-1990's. The information gathered could help inform construction reimbursement regulations.

F. Resource Sharing Summit

A continuing education program titled *Envisioning the Future of Resource Sharing in Rhode Island: Aspiration Meets Practicality* was held on October 13 at the Bello Center at Bryant University. Mr. Marshall Breeding, founder and editor of *Library Technology Guides*, gave the keynote presentation that focused on resource management, library systems, and resource sharing.

G. Upcoming Events and New Projects

i. Diversity

Following up on her presentation at the September 15 Cornucopia meeting, Ms. Mellor will be convening a group to examine the topic of diversity, with the goal of expanding diversity and inclusion in the staffing of Rhode Island's libraries. The group will include representation from the RI Library Association, University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, Cornucopia, Rhode Island libraries, and other interested individuals. The group will also look outside the profession for resources and direction. It was noted that the American Library Association has a strong initiative for diversity in libraries.

ii. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

Ms. Mellor will attend the COSLA annual conference from October 24-26 in Minneapolis, and will report on the conference at the LBRI meeting in November.

H. Local Library Development Team

OLIS is working to revive its Local Library Development Team; the team was dissolved in 2008 because of staff constraints. Once re-implemented, all professional staff members will be engaged in one-on-one meetings with public library directors. The team's objective is to learn about current activities and the aspirations of local libraries, identify challenges and

barriers in delivering library services, and provide information about OLIS. The information gathered will be instrumental in helping OLIS develop its Strategic Plan and reconnect with public libraries. The program may be expanded to include academic libraries and school libraries.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

i. Department of Administration (DOA) Legislation Meeting

Ms. Mellor met with DOA officials about the legislative initiatives that OLIS would like to see developed during the 2017 RI General Assembly Legislative Session. For the meeting, Ms. Mellor reviewed Title 29 of the General Laws, especially RIGL§29-6-9 - the Rhode Island library network, which includes some outdated concepts and language.

B. Policy Review Committee

The Policy Review Committee did not meet.

C. Library Construction Regulations Review

The Library Construction Regulations Review Committee did not meet.

D. State Aid Formula Review Committee

The State Aid Formula Review Committee met on September 28 and will meet again on October 27. The goal of the committee is to have a report for the LBRI at the November LBRI meeting.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Mr. Findlay

Mr. Findlay attended a symposium on Friday, September 16, at Brown University, titled 'The Prison Education Movement: Does Brown Have a Role?' The event was sponsored in part by the John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage. Currently, incarcerated individuals can acquire an Associate Degree at the RI Adult Correctional Institution (ACI), through the Community College of RI. Brown University is also offering recorded courses to medium-security ACI inmates that will allow them to attain a Bachelor Degree.

The disparity encountered between research libraries and resources available to ACI students and Brown University students was a topic of discussion. ACI students are not afforded the same ability to conduct proper classwork research to participate in the classes. The research cannot be facilitated through the current ACI library due to security and internet usage issues. In 2010, the Department of Corrections (DOC) received a grant to install an intranet system at the ACI to facilitate online learning for the inmates, and the system is still in the process of being implemented.

Recently, the company Audible, a division of Amazon, contacted DOC officials to discuss a program for inmates. Inmates can purchase MP4 players from the prison commissary and

with them they could download recorded books. The option to provide internet access to download Audible materials to MP4 players will require investigation. Mr. Findlay recommended that the LBRI plan a visit to the ACI to view programming and library activities.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business was discussed by the board.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before the board.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2016, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mr. Norris

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.